NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT. PROPRIETOS AND EDITOR.

SPICE N. W. CORNER OF NASSAU AND PULTON STS.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Pourteenth street-La Spia.

BROADWAY THRATES, Broadway - MAZEPPA - THAT

MIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway-GREEN MOSSTER-FRE BURTON'S THEATRE, Chambers street-Halping Hands-that Burssen Haby-Fortunio.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Brondway-Much And anout

-AURA KHENR'S VARIETIES, Brondway-CAMILIS-

TROADWAY VARIETIES, 472 Broadway-SLACE EYED WOOD'S MINSTRELS. 444 Broadway-Ethiopian Per

New York, Wednesday, March 26, 1856.

The News.

The Court of Appeals yesterday rendered its decision upon the search and seizure clause of the Prohibitory Liquor law. The questions at issue arose in the Brooklyn and Buffalo cases. In the Brooklyn case the Supreme Court held that the search and seizure clause was unconstitutional, and this decision is affirmed by the Court of Appeals. In the Buffalo case the Supreme Court held that the search and seizure clause was constitutional, and the decision is reversed by the Court of Appeals. The opinions delivered have not been made public, but it is clear that the practical effect of these decisions is equivalent to a declaration that the law is unconstitutional in gross and in detail. It is reported that Justices Denio, A. S. Johnson, Selden and Comstock were against the constitutionality of the law, and that Justices T. A. Johnson, Wright and Mitchell held to the contrary opinion. The Albany Journal says:-"It is understood that the Court of Appeals decides that any prohibitory law which interferes with and affects property already in possession, is unconstitutional and void. That the present law is wholly unconstitutional, for the reason that it applies to property now in possession, as well as that to be hereafter acquired; but that the Legislature have power to pass a prohibitory law to apply to liquor to be hereafter purchased. It is under stood further, that these conclusions are dissented from by three of the eight Judges."

The bids for the \$1,000,000 canal loan were epened at Albany yesterday. The total amount of the bids was over five million dollars. Mr. Thompson's bid for the whole or none was \$117 05. The average premiums of the highest bidders exceeded Mr. Thompson's bid by only \$200. R. H. King gets \$300,000, H. H. Martin \$250,000, John Sill \$100,000, Commercial Bank of Albany \$90,000, and the balance is divided among the bids exceeding \$16 90

premium on the \$100. In the United States Senate vesterday the chair man of the Finance Committee introduced a bill making Spanish and Mexican silver quarters, shill lings and sixpences a legal tender, at the value of twenty, ten and five cents each, for all sums not exceeding five dollars; also providing for the recoinage of those pieces as fast as they come into possession of the government, and anthorizing the me of a new cent piece. The Military Committee was instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing one or more national foundries, as recommended by the Secretary of War. Mr. Mason will soon introduce a bill remodelling the diplomatic and consular system. The Deficiency Appropriation bill was discussed until the adjournment. In the House Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, declined serving upon the Kansas Investigating Committee, and Mr. Sherman, of Ohio, was appointed in his stead. The bill defining the rights of voters in the city of Washington coming up, Mr. Humphrey Marpersons to be residents one year immediately preceding an election to entitle them to the right of suffrage. This gave rise to a lively debate, in which nearly all the leading Know Nothing members participated, but before taking the question the House adjourned.

Our telegraphic despatches from Albany contain the pith of the proceedings of the Legislature yesterday. They will be found unusually interesting. We learn by a gentleman from Orange county that in the towns of Monroe and Goshen, the Know Nothings have succeded in electing their whole ticket by triumphant majorities over the union ticket

composed of democrats, republicans, straight-out whice and national democrats.

A Kansas meeting was held last evening in the Broadway Tabernacle, at which Theodore Dwight presided. A committee of five for the collection of material aid was appointed, and the usual amount of speaking of the usual kind done. A report will be found elsewhere.

The Board of Aldermen held a special meeting last evening, at which they concurred with the Councilmen to apply to the Legislature for authority to raise \$1,000,000 for the purpose of building the new City Hall.

The importers and traders in tobacco and segars of this city, held a meeting yesterday to take initia tive steps to prevent the passage by Congress of the new tariff recently introduced in the Senate by Mr. James, which affects the rates of duties on im ported tobacco and segars. They adopted a series of resolutions upon the subject, and appointed a committee to look after their interests.

The Board of Ten Governors met yesterday, bu transacted very little business of note. Gov. Draper withdrew his resignation, tendered at the last meet ing, at the urgent request of other members of the Board. Mr. Draper is now confined to his room from severe injuries received by falling from a railroad car. The report of the Wardens show a total of 6 449 in the institutions under charge of the Go vernors-a decrease of 57 since last week. During the past seven days 1,109 persons have been ad mitted, 1,031 discharged, 107 sent to the peniten tiary, 8 to State prison, and 20 died.

The Cox divorce case still continues, but the testimony will be brought to a close this morning, and the counsel will proceed to sam up. Some very indecent and intemperate language, calculated to lower our courts of justice in the eyes of the community, was made use of yesterday. A report of the proceedings may be found in another part of today's paper, and our readers will judge for them-

Water has been let into the Delaware and Raritan Canal, and navigation will commence on Friday

It was stated the other day, on what was deemed good authority, that a practice had prevailed to some extent of buying rump pork, &c., and converting it into prime mess for the French market. We have since learned that as far as the French govern ment contracts are concerned, including those engaged in filling them, as well as the government inspectors, there is no foundation whatever for such an assertion. It seems that the French govern ment the past autumn contracted for the delivery of about 100,000 bbls. of prime mess pork, 40,000 to 50,000 of which was to be packed in this city. The terms of the contract rigidly stipulated for the best

article of the kind, subject to the inspection of two Inspecto is resident here, appointed by the government, whose approval and brands have to be made and marked on the barrels before they are received, so as to preclude any possibility of deception in the quality of the article. The prime pork put up for the government is composed of fifty pieces, weighing four pounds each. To supply materials for these pieces requires twenty-five shoulders, with the leg out off close to the breast. Included with these twenty-five pieces are usually two rump pieces, cut also into four pound pieces. The prime mess pork packed this season was contracted for at high prices and it is said that it has been of a very superior quality most of it packed in this city having run thirty pieces fine and twenty pieces coarse, or shoulder pieces, without any rump pieces at all. Some of it contained, as usual, two rumps to each barrel. The pork has been saltpetred and then cured for ten days before packing, and then packed up with more than the usual quantity of sait, and great care has been used in the whole business from beginning to end-Unsually, packers in this country, of prime mess, do not use saltpetre, and instead of cutting off the leg at the breast of the houlder, only cut it off at the first joint. All packed is closely and rigidly inspected before delivery and shipment. The magnitude of this French contract may be judged of when we consider that the price of prime mess pork in this market is now from \$16 a \$17 per barrel, and scarce at that. The 100,000 barrels, at \$16 per barrel, will amount to the large sum of \$1,600,000. We have no means of knowing on what terms the contracts were put out but believe them to have been at higher rates, in most cases, than the figures given above.

The cotton market was active yesterday, with sales of about 5,000 bales, the market closing firm. Among the transactions was a line of 1,500 bales of St. Mark's fair middlings at 10 ic. The accounts by telegraph from the South also represented prices firm, with pretty active markets. Flour was unchanged and firm, with moderate sales of State. Western and Canadian white. Southern was in good demand. Canadian prime white wheat sold at \$1 924. Corn was tolerably active, without change of importance. Prices ranged from 64c. a 65c, 68c. a 70c. for all kinds. Among the sales was a prime cargo of Johnson's fancy white North Carolina, at 70c. Pork was dull, with sales of mess at \$15 75 a \$15 814, and prime at \$15. Sugars were quiet and prices unchanged. Coffee sold pretty freely, including a cargo of 2,600 bags Rio at 11 fc. a 11 fc.; and a cargo of Java was sold at auction, particulars of which are given in another column. Freights to Liverpool were rather better for grain, with engagements of some 20,000 bushels at 7c. at 7jc. in bags, hiefly at the latter figure.

The Unconstitutionality of the Prohibitory Liquor Law_Finel Decision by the Court

The final decision by the highest judicial tribunal of the State declaring the Probible tory Liquer law unconstitutional, has something more in it than the mere settlement of an important question of legislative power. The law itself was an embodiment of the opinions and resolutions of a large class of the people of this State; a class who deemed themselves the peculiar guardians of public morals, and as the apt instructors of a majority of their fellow-citizens. With such men, experience was of no account—the rights of property and of persons were nothing-customs, habits and even great commercial interests, were thrust violently aside to give operation to legislative expedients and moral disinfectants-society was to legislate us into good character and conduct. The representatives of the people became their instructors, and assumed to enforce moral reforms by criminal denunciations and intamous punishment.

In a country where the people constitute the primary source of power, and where government is instituted to preserve social orderwhere special and limited authority is given to the Legislature-that body forgetting its duties and transcending its constitutional limits, has undertaken, not only to be an instructor and teacher, but also to exercise the most oppressive and arbitrary jurisdiction over property, even to the extent of directing its confiscation. When the moral condition of the country is made to depend upon legislation-when reforms can only be effected through the opera tion of penal statutes-when the police comes our only protection-it will be a sail day for the State.

The object of laws is not to make money, but to effect distribution between capital and labor, in matters of intercourse between man and man. In addition to this feature of legistion all governments have their penal statutes for the punishment of crime. Lately the excessive wisdom of a few fanatics has devised an intermediate office of legislation undertaking to guard, protect and improve the morals

It is worthy of note that in the State and in the nation, there has been a growing legislative demoralization, and these are the sourwhence has emanated the Prohibitory Liqu laws-laws based avowedly upon the purpoof enforcing moral reforms.

Now what are the fruits which have been reaped in this insane crusade against the rights of individuals and of property?

Look at the effect of the law upon the people and upon the institutions of the State. See all the inferior judiciary dragged into the arena of politics, and their decisions made to conform to the friends and the opponents of the statute in question. See that statute enforced in one city and totally rejected in "nother. See property seized and business destroyed in one town, while trade in the same article is treely conducted in another. See Judges appointed to office under the degrading and utterly disqualifying pledges of support or opposition to a public statute! See the pulpit, filled with extemporising laudations of partisan schemes, and violent crusades urged from the very sanctuaries against men and business! Are these legitimate fruits of good government, or evidence of the propriety of such measures? Do these things signify morality? Do they inculcate respect for law and for social order? Do they evince wisdom and moderation in our legislation? Is this the way to secure respect for the constitution and its guaranties?

The Court of Appeals has now pronounced the Prohibitory Liquor law unconstitutional. The lesson, we repeat, ought not to be lost. But what hope have we that the legislative outrage involved in the passage of that law will not be repeated in some other shape? The country is filled with a great class of insane or idelatrous Nieger Worshippers. It was they, in the main, that exacted and enacted the Liquor law. They have been defeated by the conservative power of the Judiciary. The constitution stands in their way; and now the campaign will be urged against that compact. Never before, in the history of this country, has there existed so great a necessity for the exercise of wise conservative councils. The decision of the Court of Appeals is but the beginning of the end.

The lesson taught by the terrible castastro phe of the John Rutledge should not be lost. That vessel, after having been several days in the ice, and notwithstanding a watch the vigilance of which is guaranteed by the imninence of the danger, ran foul of an iceberg at 10 o'clock A. M., on a February morning, and went down on the evening of the same day. To judge from the report of the sole survivor and the language of the log, no presantion could have averted the mishap. It had been apprehended, expected, for days; all the crew and passengers were constantly on the alert; every one knew that a collision might occur at any moment; the ship was full menned, her discipline was good, her crew efficient, her passengers ready to work, her captain apparently equal to the emergency; yet, in spite of all, she struck-struck in broad daylight-at ten o'clock in the morning, probably on one of the very icebergs whose size and proximity the last entry in the log book records. Nor is there any reason to hope that her misfortune is a solitary accident. Of the many belated vessels whose arrival has been so long and anxiously expected, there is indeed reason to fear that several have shared her tate. The Pacific may be safe-God grant the bel-but in her case, like the others, presump tion points with crushing force to that field of ice-to that archipelago of icebergs-as but too protably the grave of the gallant ship, and her hapless inmates. That such a field did exist-that it was thickly strewn with bergs against which it was certain destruction to run -that it spread right across the path which nearly every vessel takes in crossing the ocean - in fine, that every vessel which left England for America between the 12th January and the beginning of March must have either run into it, or providentially seen it in time to reverse its course and sail out of the way-is abundantly proved by the reports of the steamers which have escaped the peril.

The question now arises : how is this danger of the deep to be met?

Let us refer to our memories for the reflections which were in every mind when the Arctic was lost. As every one knows, she ran into the French steamer Vesta, in a fog off the Banks, and foundered in consequence of the injury caused by the collision. When the news of that terriole disaster arrived, the word in every one's mouth was.-This is but the first of a series of collisions at sea. It was shown that in proportion to our acquisitions of knowledge with regard to the currents and winds affecting the ocean, the channel used by steamers and sailing vessels had become narrower and parrower; and that at the time the Arctic was lost, all vessels salling eastward and westward sailed if they could, in a belt of some ninety to one handred miles width Hence it was reasonably argued that, as each year witnessed a vastincrease of navigation, and as the tendency of science was rather to straighten ships' courses than otherwise, the danger of collision was enormously increased. and that, unless some means were taken to meet the difficulty, the accident of the Arctic was likely to be repeated several times in the course of each year.

Still, notwithstanding this very proper coaclusion, no new means were taken either to prevent collisions or to render them innoquous. The catastrophe of the John Rutledge. and the probable fate of other missing vessels, now present the same question under a new aspect of increased imminence. It has been usual to begin to expect ice in April, May and June. The large floes and heavy loebergs arseldom seen in any numbers as iar south as the latitude in which the European vessels ran be fore May. This year they blocked the path in February; they will probably be there in July. For four months of this year, at least, in addition to the dangers of collisions with other both ways under imminent risk of running into icebergs, with the result which befell the John Rutledge. There is no reason to suppose that the peculiar atmospherical causes which operated this year to detach the ice earlier than usual, will never operate again. We must count on ice from February to July.

Now, we have a very simple choice laid open to us. We may either continue to run as we are now doing, with a tolerable certainty of several accidents like that of the Arctic or that of the John Rutledge every year, or we may devise means of rendering such catastrophes impossible. Any one can judge which of the two plans is most consonant with the spirit of the age, the duty of the legislative authorities, the bare policy of this nation.

It is possible to build ships so that a collision either with an iceberg or another vessel shall not necessarily involve a shipwreck. Watertight compartments will enable steamers or ships to run foul of, without sinking each other. The Vesta, which ran into the Arctic, steamed quietly and sately, with a huge hole in her bows, into the port of St. Johns. Builders of large experience are of opinion that unless the vessels running into each other were very large and sailing very fast, they might run at full tilt foul of each other, end on end, and the shock would injure nothing beyond the foremost compartment. In England and France, the compartment system s being almost universally adopted. All tae Glasgow vessels-renowned for their safety-

are built with compartments. It is time, we think, that the plan were adopted here: and that not in individual instances, where the fear of unpopularity may stimulate shipowners, but in the case of every passenger vessel sailing out of sight of land. To effect this end, a law of Congress is required. Congress legislated wisely and well for inland steamers; and many a blessing has been offered up for them who introduced and carried through the act on the subject. Who will now take up the question with regard to ocean steamers, and propose a bill requiring th every American vessel sailing to sea with passenger on board, shall be built with watertight compartments?

RATHER UNPLEASANT. The Southern democratic papers are quoting from Donelson's old articles against Fillmore, when the "greasy Tennessean" edited the Union, and Fillmore was President. It is only another proof of Talleyrand's saying-"Give me two lines of a man's handwriting, and I'll hang him."

REPUBLATES HIM .- Mr. Seymour, the State Engineer, has come out against the nomination of Mr. Fillmore, and counsels his American brethren to unite with the convention to be held in this city in June next. Seymour goes for Live Oak George Law. It is rather late.

REVOLUTION IN THE ALBANY PRESS,-The comination of Mr. Fillmore has had one good effect at least. There is a prospect that it will reform the Albany press. The newspapers in that city have heretofore been either engines in the hands of unscrupulous politicians, like Croswell, Weed and Seward, or mere scavengers of local garbage. Two new papers, made cut of old ones, have now appeared. The Reverend Joseph A. Scoville, ex private secretary to John C. Calhoun, ex-hard shell democrat, ex-editor of the New York Pick, ex-New Jersey farmer, has become the proprietor of the State Register, which is now the size of a single sheet HERALD, and is sold at two cents per copy. The issue before us contains Mr. Scoville's manifesto, which is rather severe on Fillmore, and in which he defines his position as a national American, with the Order, for anything except Mr. Fillmore for President. H: also denies giving that one hundred dollars for the conversion of Kansas to NIGGER WOR-SHIPPING doctrines by the aid of colporteurs distributing rifles, sabres and revolvers. He further says that he intends to give Albany a first rate newspaper-something it needs sadly. If he does this he will succeed; but he must be careful, or he will become more sectional than Seward himself. Then he will fail.

In opposition to the Reverend Joseph A. Scoville, a number of the State officers-Mr Headley, Secretary of State, Mr. Barrows. Comptroller, Mr. Clark, Treasurer, Mr. Whallon, Canal Commissioner, and Mr. Benton, Canal Auditor-have purchased the Albany Morning Express, and issued it under the name of the Statesman. It is to be the official Fillmore Know Nothing organ. We hope they will both ge ahead, and remember that the influence of a newspaper is in exact proportion to the enterprise, ability, energy, activity and patriotism of its conductors.

THE CENTRAL PARK .-- An attempt is being made by some of Mr. Seward's friends at Albany to perpetrate another scandalous job. The idea with regard to the Central Park is that five commissioners are to be appointed by the Mayor, subject to the approval of the Aldermen, to lay out the park. They would be, it was supposed, men of sufficient leisure and means to be able to undertake the business gratuitously; and therefore only \$300 a year were allowed them by way of salary-enough to keep the horse they will have to ride when they proceed to the Park in discharge of their duties It was also expected that they would be men of acknowledged taste and refinement; men who, having all their interests in this city, would proceed to lay out the park in a manner

worthy of the city. It is now proposed by Senator Upham (a NIGGER WORSHIPPER, of course,) that the appointment of the commissioners be left to the Governor. What the Governor of the State, who keeps a hardware store at Canandaigua, has to do with the park in this city, may well be a matter of inquiry and wonder. Why not say the President, at once? Why not consule the foreign Ministers? These functionaries are full as well qualified to lay out the park as the Governor. Mr. Upham's idea undoubteasy is to provide berths for five of his friends, for whom increased salaries will be demanded next year: in a word, to make our park the instru ment for supporting his NIGGER WORSHIPPING triends, and serving the purposes of his party. Now, how soon will this mock auction concern be kicked out of the Senate?

RISE IN THE VALUE OF CITY PROPERTY .- If real estate in the lower part of the city continues to rise much longer at its present rate, every square foot of ground will soon be worth its weight in gold. In proof of this we have only to mention the fact that the building at the corner of Murray street and College place (formerly a private mansion,) which had been rented to the government for the United States Courts at \$16,500, is about to be torn down make way for stores, which it is calculated wil bring the owner \$32,000 a year. Were the proprietors of the tombs in Trinity churchyant at liberty to sell their interests in them, w bave no doubt that in a year or two they mis dispose of them for the price of a New Jersey or Long Island farm.

THE OPENING OF SPRING .-- By a late despatch from New Orleans we learn that an overflow of the Mississippi river is feared, in which case great damage would be done. We should be thankful that here at the North, where the winter has been unprecedentedly severe, we have had a gradual thaw, which, if it continues, will save us from dangerous freshets. As the wigter at the South has been a very hard one. there may be a very sudden opening of warm weather, and much property destroyed when the waters in the great rivers rise.

SHE WOULD BE A GOOD CANDIDATE. - A FILLmore paper at Washington says Banks declines being considered a candidate for the Presidency, but hopes are entertained of the Hon. Abby Kelly. It is cheeringly magnanimous on the part of Banks to decline what he probably could not get, but Abby will do very well with Blair, of Jackson's organ, at the tail of the ticket.

THE RECOVERED LIFE BOAT .- We learn from the manuacturers of Francis' metallic life boats that the boat No 2,913, picked up by the bark Lewellyn, which arrive! at Providence on Monday, was furnished to the United states revenue cutter Dobbin.

BURTON'S THEATRE-A NEW FARCE .- "Young Taron tion," a sketchy affair, was done here last night for the first time. It is simply a vehicle to exhibit the talen of Mr. McVicker, to whom we have before alluded. In hero, Young Tarnation, (McVicker) is a Yankes of the fast school-a sort of prodigal son, who returns to hi father's house and kicks up all sorts of rows under an assumed name. The piece has no particular point of purpose that we could discover, but is a rattling trine, nd has the great merit of brevity. Mr. McVicker a ted the part very nicely, and the piece was moderately successiul. Mr. Gayler's comedy, "Taking the Chances, was also acted—the performance being for the benet and last appearance here of Mr. McVicker, who goe West to play some engagements. He is so well known there that it is hardly necessary for us to say a word by way of recommendation. His success here, however, ha been well merited. The house last night was full an i enthusiastic.

Williamsburg City News.

TEXAST Horses,-The police of the Fifth district, comprising the Thirteenth and Fourteenth wards, reported esterday that there were 63 houses in that district occu. yesterday that there were 63 houses in that district occupied by over four families each. A row of six five story brick buildings, near the foot of South Fifth street, are designed for 120 families, but at present they contain but 45 families. A row of five four story buildings in Second attreet, between South Second and South Third streets, are intended for 60 families, but at present are occupied by 40 families. A number of houses in the Fourteenth ward contain from eight to twelve families, buildes, in some instances, pigs and hem. These buildings average seven families of four and a half members, maxing 1,984 occupants in the sixty-three houses. If all of the apartments were occupied, the number would reach over 3,000. Some of these houses are reported to be in a filthy condition, and in need of stringent sanitary measures.

ROBERTY.—The dwelling house of Mrs. Granger, No. 110 Third street, E. D., was entered on Monday night, and

Third street, E. D., was entered on Monday night, and robbed of ladies' wearing apparel, valued at about \$126. TRE LATEST NEWS.

BY MAGNETIC AND PRINTING TELEGRAPHS.

The Probibitory Liquor Law Declared Un-IMPORTANT DECISION OF THE COURT OF APPEALS. AIRANY, March 25, 1856.

In the case of the People vs. Toynbee, of Brooklyn, the Court of Appeals has affirmed the judgment of the lower court, which was adverse to the constitutionality of the search and seizure clause. In the Buffalo case—the Pep-ple vs. Wynhamer—in which jacgment was readered by the lower court in favor of the constitutionality of the prohibitory principle, the Court of Appeals has reversed the judgment, thus declaring not only the search and seizure clause, but even the general principle of prohibition, unconstitutional.

From Washington.
THE KANSAS INVESTIGATING COMMISSION—THE PRE-SIDENT'S NEW ENGLAND BACKERS—COMMODORE VANDEMBILT AND THE CASINET.

The resignation of Mr. Campbell as one of the Kansas Commissioners to-day, and the immediate appointment of another Ohio man in his place, was considered by Mr. Dunn's friends as adding insult to injury. A good deal of indignation was manifested in certain quarters. It was ascertained this morning that Mr. Sherman, the newly appcinted Commissioner, had left yesterday for Ohio, to be gove some time. He was telegraphed to return imme-

I was shown a letter to-day from a Pierce officeholder in New England to a gentleman in this city, in which the said officeholder states that his (Pierce's) friends are deceiving him; that they do not desire his nomination, but, on the other hand, are for Mr. Buchanan, first and last. I assert positively that the Nicaragua difficulty has been before the Cabinet, and that Commodore Vanderbilt and his lawyers have been importuning Marcy and Cur hing to interfere in their behalf.

The Governorship of Wisconsin. The Supreme Court yesterday issuel a writ of onster sgainst Mr. Barstow, and established Mr. Bashford's claim

to the Governorship. ber this morning, and sent a message to the Senate, the Assembly having previously adjourned, to prevent its 13assumed the duties of Governor upon the resignation of Mr. Barstow,) refused to give way to Mr. Bashford, and asked the latter if torce would be used. Mr. Bashford replied, "Yes, if necessary."

THIRTY-POURTA CONGRESS.

Senute.

WASHINGTON, March 25, 1856. THE DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR SYSTEM. Mr. Mason, (dem.) of Va., gave notice of his intention introduce a bill to amend the act remodelling the diplomatic and consular system.

On motion of Mr. BRODBEAD (dem.) of Pa., the Committee on Military Affairs was instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing one or more national foun-Cries, in accordance with the recommendation of the Secretary of War in his annual report of December, 1603.

NATIONAL FOUNDRIES.

SPANISH AND MEXICAN SMALL SILVER COIN TO BE A LEGAL PLANEH AND MEXICAN SHALL SHAPE COIN TO BE A LEGAL TRADES, AND RECOINSD.

Mr. HUNTER, (dem.) of Va., reported a bill to provide for the reception at the United States offices of Spanish milled and Mexican quarters, eighths and sixteenths of a collar, at 20, 10 and 5 cents, and making such coin, at these rates, legal tender for all sums not exceeding five dollars. The bill also provides for the recoining of these pieces as fast as they come into possession of the government. It also au horizes the President to issue a procise mation legalizing a new cent piece, to be formed by an alloy of copper with some other metal.

The Designer APPROPRIATION BILL.

The consideration of the Deficiency Appropriation bill

Algog discussion took place on an amendment appropriating \$350,000 for paper arrears, printing and maps.

The amendment was adopte i.

Mr. Brown, (dem.) of Miss., remarked that the only way to stop giving out latjobs for printing worthless cocuments, is to establish a government printing office, and abolish the franking privilege.

House of Representatives. WASHINGTON, March 25, 1856.

THE KANSAS INVESTIGATING COMMITTE On motion of Mr. WALKER, (K. N.) of Alabama, the Judiciary Committee was instructed to inquire whether he Kansas Investigating Committee have power to coerce the attendance of witnesses, and punish for con-

Mr. CAMPRELL (nigger worshipper) of Ohio, said that when the House organized he, very unexpectedly to himself, was appointed to the distinguished position of chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, and yesterday a distinction was conferred upon him by the chair equally unexpected as the former. Finding that the latter involves very arduous and important services, entirely incompatible with the duties assigned him when the House organized, he asked the House to excuse him from serving at the head of the commission to proceed to Kansas. He expressed his gratitude for these two very high honors conferred on him, especially the latter, because of the peculiar circumstances at this

the latter, because of the peculiar circumstances at this time surroun ling him.

Mr. Campbell was excused, and Mr. Sherman appointed te fill the vacancy.

DEFINING THE BOUNDARIES OF KANSAS.

Mr. PHELPS, (dem) of Miss., introduced a bill authorizing the President to cause the southern boundary line of Kansas to be defined. Referred to Committee on Territials.

tories.
RIGHTS OF VOTERS IN WASHINGTON—THE KNOW NOTHINGS The House proceeded to the consideration of the bill defining the rights of voters and the duties of canculs-slozers of electrons in the city of Washington, and or other purposes.

sloters of elections in the city of Washington, and to other purposes.

Mr. HUMPIERY MARSHALL, (K. N.) of Ky., offered an amendment requiring naturalized persons to be residents ore year immediately preceding the election to entitle them to suffrage.

Mr. Joses, (cem.) of Tenn., and Mr. McMullen, (dem.) of Va., opposed the amendment on the ground that is would make an unjust distinction between native and foreign born criticets, and indirectly extend the naturalization laws.

foreign born citizets, and indirectly extend the naturalization laws.

Mr. DAVIS, (K. N.) of Md., considered the amendment necessary to protect the purity of the ballot box. He added to the rough and raw material gathered from the puritieus of the city, and marched to the polls, not to vote, but to be voted by their managers.

Mr. Maccian (nigger worshipper) of Vt., said the bith had been drawn with great care, approved by men of all parties, and unanimously supported by the committee on the District of Columbia. The gentiemen who disrect the amendment belongs to the Judiciary Committee, which has power to report a bill changing the naturalization laws of the whole country, and yet he comes forward with this little patch on a measure which concerns Washington alone.

Washington alone.
Mr. Campunii. (tigger worshipper) of Ohio, hoped a similar provision would be inserted in the Territorial bills, to put an end to the improper influence of foreign tes in controlling elections. Mr. Boyce (dem.) of S. C., advocated equality before

Mr. BOYCE (dem.) of S. C., advocated equality before the law. After a foreigner becomes a citizen, treat him as such. While professing to take him to the bosom of American fraterniy, do not let it be a cheat and delusion. Let him be a citizen in spirit and in name. Mr. Harrie, (dem.) (fill., refurred Mr. Davis, of Maryland, to the fact as shown by the census in 1850, in the last named State, that educational intelligence, by a comparison of numbers, was largely in favor of persons of foreign birth.

Mr. Davis.—That conveys no instruction.

Mr. Davis—That conveys no instruction.
Mr. Harris—Then the gentleman is beyond the reach of instruction.

Mr. Hall, (rigger worshipper) of Mass., argued that
the amendment recurse equality before the law, and will
prevent the control of elections by persons on public

prevent the control of elections by persons on public works.

Mr. Richardson, (dem.) of Ill., spake against discriminating, saying that the sooner the right of citizenship was conferred the better.

Mr. Carille, (N. K.) of Va., contended that if the bill passed without this amendment it will confer acvantages on foreigners not possessed by natives.

Mr. Zollkooffer, (K. N.) of Tenn. understood that one-third of the voting population of Washington son sisten of government employés.

Mr. WHITNEY, (K. N.) of N. Y., believed that the bill was the product of an effort on the part of the administration to stills the rentlments of the people on the American question by introducing slien votes.

Mr. Machan (in response to a question of Mr. Smith, of Tennessee) remarked that not a word was said in committee referring to the administration or to any political party.

party.

Messers. Kenr, (dem.) of S. C., and Goode, (dem.) of Va., opposed, and Mr. Wallser. (K. N.) of Alm., a trocated the amendment, pencing which the House adjourned.

Town Election at Portchester. PORTCHESTER, March 25, 1856.

At the election held in this town to-day the whole

The Camden Homicide. PHILADELPHIA, March 25, 1866.

Lenairs, one of the men arcested for smooting Mr.
Hatch, cf Camden, on Sunday, has confewed that he fired
the fatal shot, but alleges that it was done in self-defence.

Navigation of the Ohio River.
PITSBURG, March 25, 1856.
The ice has all run out of the river, and it is now in fine navigable order. In the channel the water is ten feet deep. Several steamers have arrived from the lower ports, and several have departed.

Southern Mail. Baltimons, March 26 1856. We have received no mail to-day south of Mobile.

Boston Weenly Bank Statement. Bosron, Marck 25, 1866. The following are the footings of our bank statement of

the past week, ending March 24, as compared with the | March 17. | Capital stock | \$31,800,000 | Lams and discounts | \$52,997,000 | Specie | \$3,779,000 | Amount due from other banks | 7,700,000 | Amount due to other banks | 6,006,000 | Repeats | 15,207,810 | Circulation | 6,070,000 | \$31,960,000 52,025,000 4 115,700 8,664,000 6,334,000 15,199,000 7,056,860

Destructive Fire at Utica.

Unca. March 25, 1855

The news room of Mr. King and dentist office of H.

White, in the Devereux block in this city, were burthis morning. Mr. King's loss, \$1,500—insured; Mr. Devereux's in \$3,000—iully insured.

PHILADELPHIA STOCK BOARD.

PHILADELPHIA, March 25, 1856.

Stocks are steady; quota ions as follows: —Fennylvania 5'a, 83 ½; Rescing isR, 461.10ng island, 16½; Morris-Canal, 14¾; Fennsylvan a FR 45½.

Cotton advanced. Sairs to day 25,000 bales, at 9½c. a 9½c. for middling. Molasses, 36½c. Barrelled lard, 9c. Freightz—Cotton to Europe ½d.

Cottantismon, March 24, 1856.

Salessof cotton to day, 5 500 bales, at 9½c. a 10½c. a 10½c. a 10½c. a 10½c. a 10½c.

SPECIAL MEETING TO CONCUR TO APPLY TO THE LEGISLATURE FOR \$1,000,000 TO BUILD THE NEW CITY HALL.

The Board held a special meeting last evening, pursuan; o a call signed by a majority of the members of the Board, for the purpose of acting upon a draft of a memorial to the Legislature for the passage of an act to raise \$1,000,000 to build a new City Hall.

The act, which emans ed from the men, was then read.

Alderman Vocasiles explained the reason of the call of this special meeting to be to concur with the Board of Councilmer, as the regular meeting of this Board would not be held whill the 'tho' next month. He moved a concurrence with the Councilmen. Carried, Alderman Verrian being the only member wao voted in the negative.

Alderman Etv seked if it would not be competent for the Board to discuss now the location for the new City The act, which emans ed from the Board of Council-

The PRESIDENT said that the business of the special meeting should be confined to the object for which it was

convexed.

The Clerk was directed to farnish a copy of the proceedings to the Mayor for his signature, and then transmit to the Legislature.

The President understood the Mayor to say he was going to Albany to-morrow, and that he would sign the paper and take it with him.

The Brookiyn Navy Yard. HAULING THE UNITED STATES STEAM PRIGATE NIA-GARA INTO THE NAVAL DRY DOCK—HER APPEAR-ANCE IN THE GREAT STRUCTURE—STRAIGHTENING OF THE MAMMOTH WAR VESSEL.

The United States steam frigate Ningara is now safely secured in the Naval Dry Dock. About ten e'clock on Monday morning last, Mr. George Steers, her builder, began his preparations for hauling her from the vicinity of the ship house. A large force of men were employed, and in an hour after commencing he had the monstrous vessel opposite the dock, which is situated at the southerly end of the yard. At eleven e'clock the gate was opened, and the water let into the dock. It was high tice at this time, and the water filled the dock to the depth of seventy-two feet.

At twelve o'clock the Niagara was floated into the Attweeve octook the Nagara was feated into the cott, during a snow storm, and in the presence of between two and three hundred persons. Some naif dozen of these speciators were ladies, and all, not with anding the inclemency of the weather, accemed to enjoy the ceautil sight with infinite pleasure. The steam engine attached to the dock was set to work during the afternoon, and worked at intervals, so as to enable the constructor to get the ship in position on the blocks in the bottom of the dock.

get the salp in position on the blocks in the bottom of the dock.

Yesterday morning there were about ten feet of waver remaining in the cock, but in the afternoon it was pumped out, and the Nisgara is now seen to good advantage. To day or to-morrow the work of coppering, the ship will be commenced. About forty men will be required for this service; and as the work will not be required for this service; and as the work will not be required about 10 the ship will probably remain in dock 12 weeks.

The Nisgara almost completely fills up the dry dock, and presents a line appearance. Owing to the great depth of the ship, her bulwarks are eignteen set acove the surface of the dock. It has been suid by shipbuilders and others that the Nisgara, after her launch, would traighten at least tweive incoses. From accual inspection, we learn, it has been jound that the has straightened ers than one inch. To her extraordinary strength of build is attributed this remarkable fact.

Another New Ward School-Opening Exercises.

The new and spacious ward school, No. 18, in Fiftyfirst street, near Lexington avenue, was opened yester-day, with appropriate ceremonies. The exercises took place in the principal room, which was crowded by the pupils, their parents and friends. Nearly all the school efficers of the ward and the Superintendent of Schools, Mr. S. S. Randall, were also present. The children, chi whom there were between four and five handred in attendance, were dressed with much taste, the girls mostly in white, and the boys wearing rosettes on their

The exercises commenced with the singing of a dedication hymn, composed expressly for the occa-sion by Wm. Oland Bourne, Esq., after which Rev. C. M. Jamison offered up a prayer. Mr. George Beebe, who sion by Wm. Oland Bourne, Esq., after which Rev. C. M. Jamison offered up a prayer. Mr. George Beebe, who presided on the occasion, made a few appropriate remains, and concluded by introducing Mr. Moniton, who gave an interesting instory of the rise and progress of ward school No. 18, with a description of the new edities. From this weelearn that its total cost amounts to \$30, 724.48, of which \$22, 942.20 were expended on the building atome, the remainder having been paid for the furnitures and stores. The lot on which the building is signized; it is 100 feet require, and the building itself is 41 feet wide, 86 feet ceep; the front wings, 16 by 26, and the rear extension, 16 by 20 feet. It is built in the most sub lantial manoer; farful inhed with reats and desks of the cest material, and comfortably skeped; well lighted, heated and ventilated, abundantly supplied with Croton water, with flagged yard, and speaking those on each floor. The whole of each department can, by the use of stiding doors, be divided into class rooms, or converted into one grand reception or assembly room. There is, it is estimated, sufficient accommodation for fifteen hundred pupils. The principal of the male department is Mr. Euphrates Hirst, and the principal of the female, hiss Annie Bannam.

At the conclusion of Mr. Moulton's remarks, addresses were made by Rev. Dr. Orgood, Mr. S. S. Randall, Mr. Wm. Jones, School Commissioner of the Tenth ward; Mr. W. O. Bourne and Mr. Joseph Curtis. There was also acme excellent singing, by the pupils, under the direction of their music master, Mr. M. Colborn, Mr. Hayter ascompanying them on the plano. The exercises on-cluided with a song entitled "The Children's Sweet Homs," written by Mr. Bourne for the occasion. After breadition by Dr. Orgood the company dispersed, evidently well pleased with the pleasant and edifying manner in which they had been entertained.

Coroners' Inquests. UNKNOWN CHILDREN FOUND DEAD UNDER SUSPICIOUS CIR-

TUMSTANCES .- Coroner Connery held an inquest on Monday evening upon the remains of a female child, found in an open lot in University place, near Thirteenth Street. an open lot in University place, near Thirteenth Street.

From the testimony of the physician who made an examination of the body, it appeared that every bone had been extracted from the body, and that nothing but the soft parts remained. Dr. Ferguson further stated that the corpse had evidently been dissected by some medical student. Verdict—"Death by means unknown to the

student. Verdict—"Death by means unknown to the jury."

An inquest was also held by Coroner Connery upon the brdy of a male child, found dead in the rear of No. 87. Crosby stree; by some workmen. The corpse was discovered three teet below the surface of the ground, wrapped up in a sack. No evidence could be obtained as to be manner in which the child had come to his death. The medical testimony of Dr. Fe guson went to show that the child was full grown, and had in all probability been buried about eight months. The body was too much decomposed to admit of a minute examination of the parts. Veroict—"Death by inhuman means, to the jury unknown."

SCALDED TO DEATH. - Coroner Hills held an inquest upon he body of an injunt, eight months of age, named Robert Carrol, who died at his residence, No. 359 West Twenty-ixth street, thom the effects of severe smalls, received at the residence of his parents, as above, by the upsetting of some soup upon the person of the deceased. Veroict—"Acc dental death."

Personal Intelligence.

Mr. H. V. H. Voorbees, of Mobile, has been appointed ice consul of Beighum for that city. As the direct trade etween Mobile and the continue of Europe is constant you the increase, and it is conceiled that Mobile is fest ecoming one of the best timber markets in the Union, Mr. Voorbees will no doubt soon be able to make his ffice an important one both to himself and to the city.

ARBIVALS,
Prom Savannah, in the steamship Florida—H Waterburg,
lady and stater: D A Beryanw, indy, son and servant; J
Nichols, lady and child: Mr Powell and lady, Mrs Murnier,
Miss Henkell and niceo, Capt Geo F Manson and lady, Mrs Murnier,
Stanlon, J A Hobinson, H B Crosby, F J Hartwell, J. Fleming, B Curly, W J Norwood, Geo Hodges, J J Merritt, H DTve, J Cardy, E W Baker, S Mumbford—and 55 in the
steerage.

Political Intelligence.

Hon. Lewis D. Campbell, Know Nothing member of Congress, from Ohio, has written a letter in which he denies ever having said that he would support the nomination of Fillmore and Donelsop.

Not a single paper in Wisconsin, of any political party, supports the Philaderphia Know Nothing nominations. The vote by which the Philadelphia nominations were repudlated in the Ohio Know Nothing State Council was 134 to 46. The forty-rix Fillmore delegates afterwards bolted and set up another State council.

The old line whigs of Philadelphia are about to transfer a considerable portion of strength to the democracy, and there is little doubt but that the latter party will sweep the city at the June charter election.